

Memo on timing of Burke Marshall's decision to grant Wecht access to autopsy materials.
Earlier notes and correspondence show other possible political correlations.

In this case it almost perfectly coincides with Teddy's ploy of saying he could run as McGovern's v.p. That came at a crucial time in the McG campaign.

Teddy appears not to have been serious about this but there is no doubt that he, personally, engineered the move and the story and corrected the notes of the Boston reporter to whom he personally gave the story. As soon as its purposes were accomplished, he denied that he would run for any national office.

Whether or not this is relevant, and there is no way of knowing, in considering it, it should be remembered that Marshall is quoted as having told Ned Crosby that he regards Jackie and not his chum Teddy or the estate as his client. It should also be remembered that in no single case where he was counsel did he fail to harm a Kennedy, as in signing the contract, agreeing to the panel-report and its publication under those special circumstances, in granting Lattimer access, at Chappaquiddick. If there is any instance in which he was not a legal disaster for whatever Kennedy, I can't now recall it. In all dealings on assassination stuff, he acted as an adjunct of government, not as representative of the executors of the estate, read Bobby then Teddy.

Now Cyril applied more than seven months prior to the agreement to give him access. Perhaps it is just a normal lag, perhaps other things dictated it. But the coincidences ought not be ignored in any effort to evaluate. And there is another thing that should be recalled: Cyril's farout performance on radio, which can be used to totally discredit him and all critics. That preceeded this decision but followed rejection styled otherwise of his application. Nichols is said to be next. His suit and some of his wilder N.O. stuff can discredit him. He will be a setup for vigorous press questioning. And he can be used to make the government look better, because in his suit it invoked the contract, that is, blamed the Kennedys for withholding, and he lost it, twice, and now the estate makes the same stuff available to him? And nobody questions? HW